

## DUBLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 20 March 1878:—*for*,

COPIES "of the MEMORIAL lately presented by the COMMITTEE of the  
DUBLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION to His Grace the LORD LIEUTENANT  
OF IRELAND, and any REPLY given thereto:"

"And, of the RESOLUTION passed by the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
relating to the said MEMORIAL."

Dublin Castle, }  
4 April 1878. }

T. H. BURKE.

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### RESOLUTION of PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE of the CORPORATION of DUBLIN (10th December 1877) on MEMORIAL of DUBLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

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#### RESOLUTION of COMMITTEE on FIRST REPORT of SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

*Resolved*, That in view of the report of our consulting medical officer, and of the great mass of evidence on the sanitary condition of Dublin brought before the Parliamentary Committee on Local Government in Towns in Ireland, which has not yet reported, this Committee is not prepared to apply for such an inquiry as is suggested by the Dublin Sanitary Association, being of opinion that the causes of the high death-rate in Dublin are sufficiently well known, and that what is required is not further investigation of them, but more effective means of dealing with them.

Many of these causes, as pointed out by Dr. Mapother, are beyond the control of the sanitary authority; others can only be checked by degrees, as the report of Dr. Mapother shows.

The action of this Committee in reducing the deaths by what are commonly called preventable, *i.e.* zymotic diseases, has been remarkable and effective.

Should the Public Health Bill introduced by the Chief Secretary be passed next Session, the powers of sanitary authorities will be much increased, and many of the impediments which now hamper the action of this Committee will be removed.

The putting the Artisans' Dwellings Act into force in Dublin may also be expected to produce beneficial results.

While the Committee cannot join in applying for a sanitary inquiry, they at the same time have no objection whatever to it, and will be happy to co-operate in any way possible with the Commission, should it be appointed. The Committee would be glad if the Sanitary Association will state this in its application for a Commission, should it make such application.

The Committee think that the Commission, if appointed, should not only inquire into the causes of the high death-rate in Dublin, but also into the best means of abating them. In one way the suggested inquiry might be useful, in swakening public opinion to the necessity of very active and energetic, and, possibly, costly measures being adopted if the mortality in Dublin is to be reduced to a minimum. The hands of the sanitary authority would thus be strengthened.

strengthened. The Committee are most anxious to do everything possible to improve the public health, but frequently find themselves hampered by the want of public appreciation of the necessity of sanitary action.

That the report of the Sanitary Association, and that of our consulting medical officer, together with this resolution, be printed as a special report to the Council, and circulated amongst the members.

RESOLUTION OF COMMITTEE ON SECOND REPORT OF DUBLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

The reports to be printed, together with that of the Sanitary Association, and submitted to the council; but the Committee cannot ask Dr. Mapother to continue the controversy further, considering his reports conclusive, as regards the matters mentioned by the association.

*James Boyle, Secretary.*

The Assistant Secretary to the Dublin Sanitary Association to  
*Mr. Percy Bernard.*

Dublin Sanitary Association Committee Rooms,  
15, Nassau-street, 4 January 1878.

Sir,

I AM directed by the executive committee of this association to request you to be so good as to move his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to receive a deputation from the association for the purpose of presenting to his Grace a memorial on the excessively high death-rate of the city, a copy of which memorial I beg to forward herewith.

Percy Bernard, Esq.,  
Private Secretary to his Grace the  
Lord Lieutenant.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Edward Spencer,*  
Assistant Secretary.

To his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, K.G., Lord Lieutenant General and  
General Governor of Ireland.

THE humble Memorial of the President, Vice Presidents, and Members of the Dublin Sanitary Association, sheweth as follows:

(1). Your Memorialists have been constituted into an association for the purpose, amongst other things, of assisting the legally constituted authorities in improving the general sanitary condition of Dublin.

(2). The attention of the association has been, from time to time, directed to the unsatisfactory state of the public health in Dublin, as shown by the official returns of births and deaths, published by authority of the Registrar General for Ireland.

(3). Your Memorialists have observed with alarm that the death-rate has, for a considerable period, been excessively high, compared with that of other large towns and cities in the United Kingdom. The average death-rate of Dublin City for the past 10 years has been 27.9 per 1,000, a rate exceeded by only four of the 13 large towns and cities of the United Kingdom, of which the returns have been published by the Registrar General for England for the past 10 years.

(4). For the year ending 29 December 1877, the death-rate of Dublin City has been 28.9 per 1,000, a rate higher than that of any of the said 13 large towns and cities.

(5). Your Memorialists believe that this state of things calls for active remedial measures; and believe it to be essential that a searching inquiry should be made as to the causes of the excessively high death-rate, and especially as to the exceptional fatality of certain known diseases in Dublin.

(6). The

(6). The Public Health Committee of the Corporation have requested your Memorialists to state that they will be happy to co-operate with a Commission of Inquiry, should such be appointed, and have expressed their opinion that the Commission should inquire, not only into the causes of the high death-rate in Dublin, but also into the best means of abating them.

Your Memorialists, therefore, humbly pray that your Grace may be pleased to direct that a public inquiry shall be held for the purposes aforesaid.

Mr. *Percy B. Bernard* to the Assistant Secretary to the Dublin Sanitary Association.

Sir,

The Castle, Dublin, 7 January 1878.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th, and the accompanying Memorial from the Dublin Sanitary Association, which I will have the honour of bringing under the notice of his Grace the Lord Lieutenant.

Ed. Spencer, Esq.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Percy B. Bernard.*

Mr. *Percy B. Bernard* to the Assistant Secretary to the Dublin Sanitary Association.

Sir,

The Castle, Dublin, 31 January 1878.

In reply to your letter of 4th January, I am directed by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to request that you will be so good as to inform the Committee of the Dublin Sanitary Association, that his Grace having duly considered their Memorial will not trouble them to wait upon him. Any facts which they consider advisable to bring under his notice in writing will receive due and careful consideration. Begging you will thank your Committee for their courtesy in proposing to send a deputation,

E. Spencer, Esq.,  
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Percy B. Bernard.*

DUBLIN SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

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COPIES of the Minutes lately presented by the  
Committee of the Dublin Sanitary Association to the  
Council of the Dublin Sanitary Association in their  
name and any notice given therein, and of the  
Resolutions passed by the Council thereof, from  
time to time, relating to the said Association.

(*Attest.*)

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Witnessed by The Secretaries of the Association, at its Meeting,  
15 April 1894.

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Order 1. 1894